

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-03 ISO-00 /014 R

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P 181000Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184999

FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BELGRADE BERLIN BUDAPEST
USUN NEW YORK PRAGUE SOFIA WARSAW ACTION USCINCSO SEPTEMBER
18, 1973 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, CI

SUBJ: SOVIETS DIGEST CHILEAN EVENTS

REF: MOSCOW 11142

1. SUMMARY: SOVIETS ARE STILL KEEPING TIGHT REIN
ON CHILE COMMENT, BUT ISSUE CLEARLY EVOKES EMOTION
IN SOME SEGMENTS OF PUBLIC. END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIET PUBLIC TREATMENT OF EVENTS IN CHILE
HAS CONTINUED TO OBSERVE CAREFULLY DEFINED LIMITS.
FOR EXAMPLE, NO SOVIET FIGURE OF POLITICAL
IMPORTANCE HAS PARTICIPATED IN NATIONWIDE PUBLIC
MEETINGS TO EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH CHILEAN PEOPLE,
A PATTERN WHICH APPARENTLY CONTRASTS WITH THAT IN SOME
OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES. FIRST STATEMENT DIRECTLY
ATTRIBUTED TO ANY SOVIET LEADER WAS PODGORNYY'S MESSAGE
OF CONDOLENCE TO MRS. ALLENDE ISSUED SEPTEMBER 16, BUT
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THE MESSAGE SAID LITTLE BEYOND THE REQUIREMENTS OF

PROTOCOL.

3. BRITISH EMBASSY HAS HEARD THAT PROMINENT CHILEAN COMMUNIST SENATOR TEITELBAUM, AT ONE POINT DURING PRE-COUP TENSION, ASKED CPSU FOR HIGH-LEVEL PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR ALLENDE, BUT THAT SOVIETS REFUSED. TEITELBAUM WAS RECENTLY IN MOSCOW, BUT WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT EVIDENCE TO CONFIRM THIS REPORT.

4. ALTHOUGH PRESS TREATMENT AVOIDS INVOLVING SOVIETS IN ANY OFFICIAL SENSE, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT CHILEAN COUP HAS HAD STRONG EMOTIONAL IMPACT AMONG INTELLECTUALS. PRAVDA SEPT. 16 CARRIES PERSONAL TRIBUTE BY ARTIST ILYA GLAZUNOV (CHARACTERIZED BY SOME AS THE POLITBURO'S COURT PAINTER) WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CHILE WHERE HE HAD MET ALLENDE. EVENING TV NEWS SAME DAY FEATURED EULOGY BY PRESTIGIOUS FILM-DIRECTOR ROMAN KARMEN, WHO EMOTIONALLY DESCRIBED JUNTA TAKEOVER AS ACT OF "FASCISTS." THIS TERM WAS ALSO USED BY LECTURER SEPT. 15 BUT HAS NOT APPEARED IN PRINT. EARLIER, POET YEVGENIY YEVTUSHENKO FILLED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY COLUMN OF PRAVDA ON SEPT. 14 WITH A "TELEGRAM TO CHILEAN PEOPLE" IN FORM OF POEM ENTITLED "GENERALS' BOOTS."

5. HARD NEWS REPORTING, MUCH OF IT DRAWN FROM UPI AND OTHER WESTERN SOURCES, CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE POCKETS OF RESISTANCE TO JUNTA. SUICIDE VERSION OF ALLENDE DEATH IS STILL REJECTED. FOR EXAMPLE, PORTIONS OF MRS. ALLENDE'S INTERVIEW WERE QUOTED TO STRESS THAT SHE NOT ALLOWED TO VIEW BODY, BUT HER STATEMENT ABOUT ALLENDE'S INTENTION TO COMMIT SUICIDE IF DEPOSED HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED. DUBS UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE184999
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:R. WRIGHT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS WRIGHT
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730927/aaaaatoq.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 11142
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIETS DIGEST CHILEAN EVENTS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, CI
To: SANTIAGO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005